

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) An arrangement including a switching network, a first ~~switch~~ PBX connected to said network through trunks, said first ~~switch~~ PBX having lines adapted to operate with telephonic instruments and a digital port through which information contained in said first ~~switch~~ PBX can be accessed, and through which control signals can be applied to control manner of operation of said first ~~switch~~ PBX, and a second ~~switch~~ PBX connected to said network through trunks, said second ~~switch~~ PBX having lines adapted to operate with telephonic instruments and a digital port through which information contained in said second ~~switch~~ PBX can be accessed, and through which control signals can be applied to control manner of operation of said second ~~switch~~ PBX, characterized by:

a memory in said first ~~switch~~ PBX that contains a directive that each call destined to a specified line A of said lines of said first ~~switch~~ PBX is to be forwarded, through said network, to a specified line B of said second ~~switch~~ PBX, and to forward a caller-ID signal associated with said each call to said line B.

2. (Cancel).

3. (Cancel).

4. (Currently Amended) The arrangement of claim 1 further characterized by a memory in said second ~~switch~~ PBX that contains, in association with said line B, caller ID information of said line A,
a telephonic instrument connected to said line B, and
a means for implementing at said telephonic instrument a facsimile of a calling plan of said line A.

5. (Currently Amended) The arrangement of claim 4 where said means translates signal activations at said telephonic instrument to develop control signals for said second ~~switch~~ PBX, to implement said facsimile of said calling plan.

6. (Currently Amended) The arrangement of claim **5** where said means comprises a processor that translated information obtained from said first ~~switch~~ PBX.

7. (Currently Amended) The arrangement of claim **6** where said processor is a (1) processor that controls said second ~~switch~~ PBX.

8. (Currently Amended) The arrangement of claim **1** further characterized by means for digital communication between said digital port of said first ~~switch~~ PBX and said digital port of said second ~~switch~~ PBX that requires no dial-up to proceed with said digital communication.

9. (Currently Amended) The arrangement of claim **8** where said means for digital communication includes a second network to which said digital port of said first ~~switch~~ PBX is coupled, and to which said digital port of said second ~~switch~~ PBX is coupled.

10. (Original) The arrangement of claim **9** where said second network is secure from various attacks.

11. (Original) The arrangement of claim **9** where said second network includes means to enhance security of said network from attack.

12. (Currently Amended) The arrangement of claim **11** where said means to enhance security comprises a gateway processor interposed between said digital port of said first ~~switch~~ PBX and said second network and a gateway processor interposed between said digital port of said second ~~switch~~ PBX and said second network.

13. (Original) The arrangement of claim **9** where said second network is a packet network, a private network, a virtual private network, or subsumed by said switching network.

14. (Original) The arrangement of claim 9 where said second network is a connection-less network.

15. (Currently Amended) The arrangement of claim 9 further characterized by a go-between processor coupled to said second network that interacts with said first ~~switch~~ PBX through said digital port of said first ~~switch~~ PBX, and interacts with said second ~~switch~~ PBX through said digital port of said second ~~switch~~ PBX.

16. (Currently Amended) The arrangement of claim 15 where said go-between processor causes said directive to be stored in said memory of said first ~~switch~~ PBX.

17. (Currently Amended) The arrangement of claim 1 further characterized by a memory in said second ~~switch~~ PBX that contains caller ID information of said line A.

18. (Currently Amended) The arrangement of claim 17 where said caller ID information in said second ~~switch~~ PBX is associated with said line B.

19. (Currently Amended) The arrangement of claim 18 further characterized by means for digital communication between said digital port of said first ~~switch~~ PBX and said digital port of said second ~~switch~~ PBX that requires no dial-up to proceed with said digital communication.

20. (Original) The arrangement of claim 19 further characterized by a go-between processor coupled to said means for digital communication.

21. (Currently Amended) The arrangement of claim 20 where said go-between processor causes said directive to be stored in said memory of said first ~~switch~~ PBX.

22. (Currently Amended) The arrangement of claim 21 where said go-between processor causes storage of said caller ID information of said line A in said memory in said second ~~switch~~ PBX.

23. (Currently Amended) The arrangement of claim 22 where said go between processor participates in translations of signals provided by said second ~~switch~~ PBX via said means for digital communication.

24. (Currently Amended) A method for providing virtual telephonic presence at a first telephonic instrument served by a first ~~switch~~ PBX while physically present at a second telephonic instrument served by a second ~~switch~~ PBX, comprising the steps of:

installing a directive in said first PBX to (a) forward to said second telephonic instrument each call, having and associated caller ID information, that is destined to said first telephonic instrument and (b) cause said caller ID information to be provided to said second ~~switch~~ PBX; and

installing a directive in said second PBX to provide said caller ID information to said second telephonic instrument in same manner as caller ID information is provided to said second telephonic instrument when calls arrive to said second ~~switch~~ PBX, destined to said second telephonic instrument, from other callers.

25. (Currently Amended) A method for providing virtual telephonic presence for a first telephonic instrument served by a first ~~switch~~ PBX while at a second telephonic instrument served by a second ~~switch~~ PBX, comprising the steps of:

obtaining calling plan information of said first telephonic instrument

installing a directive in said second PBX to create, in association with said second telephonic instrument a facsimile of said calling plan.

26. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 25 where, as part of said directive a caller ID associated with said first telephone instrument is installed in said second ~~switch~~ PBX, and associated with said second telephone.

27. (Original) The method of claim 26 where said caller ID that is installed corresponds to full telephone number of said first telephone.

28. (Original) The method of claim **25** further comprising the step of storing said calling plan information obtained in said step of obtaining in a memory associated with a processor.

29. (Currently Amended) The method of claim **25** further comprising the step of storing said calling plan information obtained in said step of obtaining in a memory associated with a processor that is part of said second ~~switch~~ PBX, an adjunct of said second ~~switch~~ PBX, or is remote to said second ~~switch~~ PBX and is reachable by said second ~~switch~~ PBX through a network.

30. (Cancel).

31. (Cancel).

32. (Currently Amended) A method for providing virtual telephonic presence at a first telephonic instrument served by a first ~~switch~~ PBX while physically present at a second telephonic instrument served by a second ~~switch~~ PBX, comprising the steps of:

- receiving a connection request at said second telephonic instrument;
- determining that a directive exists with respect to said second telephonic instrument that a foreign calling plan is to be emulated;
- translating said connection request in accordance with information regarding said calling plan to create translated connection request; and
- undertaking to establish a connection pursuant to said translated connection request.

33. (Currently Amended) The method of claim **32** where said information regarding said calling plan is accessed in course of said translating from memory of said second ~~switch~~ PBX, from memory of a processor that is an adjunct of said second ~~switch~~ PBX, or from memory of a processor that is reachable by said second ~~switch~~ PBX through a network.

34. (Currently Amended) The method of claim **32** where said information regarding said calling plan is accessed in course of said translating from memory of a processor that is an adjunct of said second ~~switch~~ PBX, or from memory of a processor that is reachable by said second ~~switch~~ PBX through a network, and said translating is performed by said processor.